

from crafts as an economic activity. In order to accomplish the objective, a greater thrust has been accorded to an integrated approach encompassing various measures intended for the development, expansion and sustaining of production of handicrafts with an emphasis on design and technological development, surveys and studies, and innovative marketing strategies. A concept of craft development centres in identified craft pockets has been introduced to provide a package of inputs including design guidance, raw material, common facility services etc. to a cluster of artisans under a single umbrella. To upgrade existing skills and to develop new skilled hands, a scheme of training has also been in operation. A special programme has also been launched for revival of the languishing crafts.

**U. S. AID**

\*651. SHRIRAMNARAINBERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of US aid to India during the last three years;

(b) whether US aid has reduced substantially during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the projects likely to suffer as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) U. S. AID assistance authorised during the last three U. S. Fiscal Years (October to September) are as follows:—

	<i>US FY 1990 (Oct. 89 to Sept. 90)</i>	<i>US FY 1991 (Oct. 90 to Sept. 91)</i>	<i>US FY 1992 (Oct. 91 to Sep. 92) (Estimated)</i>
Development Assistance	21.5	20.9	22.0
Title II	94.0	77.1	76.0
	115.5	98.0	98.0

Besides US \$ 98.00 million to be provided in FY 1992, US\$ 25.00 million worth of edible oil is likely to be made available under Title III PL 480 Programme.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) None.

**Tenth Finance Commission**

\*652. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute the Tenth Finance Commission;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be constituted;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard;